

REMARKS

Claims 1-7 and 12 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1-7 and 12 are amended. The amendments introduce no new matter. Claims 8 and 9 are canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein. Support for the amendments can be found in Applicants' Figs. 3a-3c, for example. Reconsideration of the application based on the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Applicants appreciate the courtesies shown to Applicants' representative by Examiner Rivell in the August 1, 2008 personal interview. Applicants' separate record of the substance of the interview is incorporated into the following remarks.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-5, 8, 9 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,345,649 to Dischler in view of U.S. Patent No. 2,370,451 to Dank. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

As discussed and agreed upon by Examiner Rivell at the personal interview, Dischler and Dank fail to disclose or suggest the incorporation of the single valve of independent claim 1 into an inflation deflation tire valve, as defined in independent claim 1.

Furthermore, Applicants assert that it would not be obvious or predictable to insert the single valve of independent claim 1 into an inflation deflation tire valve, because the inflation deflation tire valve of independent claim 1 provides a solution to a disadvantage of the prior art. (*see* MPEP 2145 (X.D.3)). The disadvantage of the prior art being that the internal pressure of the tire of light vehicles is much lower and the wheel spin rate is much greater than that of heavy vehicle tires. These greater centrifugal forces cause the prior art inflation and deflation valves to malfunction. The claimed inflation deflation tire valve incorporating the single valve with a semi-rigid membrane overcomes the disadvantages of the prior art by remaining unaffected by the great centrifugal forces generated in tires of lighter vehicles, as

well as lowering the manufacturing costs. (*see* Applicants' specification regarding discussion of U.S. Patent No. 4,922,946 on pages 1 and 2, for example).

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection be withdrawn.

The Office Action rejects claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Dischler and Dank, as applied to claims 1-5, 8, 9 and 12, and in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,855,221 to Rieckhoff; and rejects claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Dischler and Dank, as applied to claims 1-5, 8, 9 and 12, and in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,084,707 to Frye. The rejections are respectfully traversed.

Rieckhoff and Frye fail to overcome the deficiencies of Dischler and Dank as mentioned above, with respect to independent claim 1. Thus, at least in view of the patentably distinct features of independent claim 1, as well as for the additional features recited therein, the rejections of claims 6 and 7 should be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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